

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 4-7, and 15-18 are currently pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 and the specification are amended, claims 3 and 8 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 17 and 18 are added. No new matter has been added to the specification, as the amendment to the specification merely corrects a typographical error.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication in the Final Office Action of November 16, 2005 that claims 4, 15 and 16 have been allowed. Applicant also gratefully acknowledges the Office Action's indication that claim 8 defines patentable subject matter.

**1. 35 U.S.C. §102/103 Rejections**

Claims 1, 3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over *Chen et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,753,072). Claim 3 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, therefore the rejection of claim 3 is moot.

Allowable claim 8 has been incorporated into claim 1, therefore Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 5-7 depend from claim 1, and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is hereby requested.

**2. New Claims**

New claims 17 and 18 have been added to the application. Allowance of the new claims is respectfully requested as claims 17 and 18 are directed to

perpendicular recording media with perpendicular magnetic enhancement layers with thickness no less than 15 nm and formed of Pt, Au, Pd or an alloy of one or more of these materials, or a face centered cubic structure, as recited in claims 17 and 18, respectively.

**3. Conclusion**

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1, 4-7 and 15-18.

Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Should any residual issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

It is believed that this Response requires no fee. However, if a fee is required for any reason, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4800 the necessary amount.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

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